THE HVMBLE AND IVST REMONSTRANCE.

OF

The Knights, Citizens, and Burgesses, in Parliament assembled in IRELAND.

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TO

THE RIGHT HONORABLE,

The Lord Deputie.

SHewing that in all Ages paſt, ſince the happy ſubjection of this Kingdome, to the imperiall Crowne of *England*; it was and is a principall ſtudy, and Princely care of his Majeſtie, and his moſt Noble Progenitors, Kings and Queenes of *England* and *Ireland*, to the vaſt expence of Treaſure and blood, that their loyall and dutifull people of this Land of *Ireland*, being now for the moſt part derived from the *Britiſh Anceſter*, ſhould be governed according to the municipiall and fundamentall Lawes of *England*, that the Statute of *Magna Charta*, or the great *Charter* for the liberties of *England*, and other laudable Lawes and ſtatutes, were in ſeverall Parliaments, here enacted and declared, that by the meanes thereof, and of the moſt prudent and benigne governement

of his Majeſtie, and his Royall Progenitors, this kingdome was (untill of late) in its growth to a flouriſhing eſtate, whereby the ſaid people were hearetofore enabled to anſwer their humble and naturall deſires, to comply with his Majeſties Royall & Princely occaſions, by the free gift of 150000. *l. ſter.* and likewiſe by another gift of 120000. *l. ſter.* more during the governement of the *Lord Viſcount Faulk-land*, & after by the gift of 40000. *l.* & their free & cheareful gift of 6. *entire ſubſidies*, in the 10. yeare of his Majeſties Reign, which to comply with his Majeſties then occaſions ſignified to the then houſe of Cõmons, they did allow ſhould amount in the collections unto 250000. *l.* although as they confidently beleeve, if the ſaid ſubſidies had not beene levied in a moderate parliamentary way, they would not have amounted to much more then halfe the ſaid ſum, beſides the foure entire ſubſidies, granted in this preſent Parliament. So it is, may it pleaſe your Lordſhip, that by the occaſion of the enſuing and other grievances and innovations, though to his Majeſties no conſiderable profit, this kingdome is reduced to that extreme & univerſall poverty, that the ſame is now leſſe able to pay a Subſidies, then it was heretofore to ſatisfie all

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the before recited great payments, & his Majesties most faithfull people of the same, doe conceive great feares that the grievances and the consequences thereof may hereafter be drawn into precedents to be perpetuated upon their posterity, which in their great hopes and strong beliefe, they are perswaded is contrary to his Majesties Royall and Princely intention towards his said people, some of which said grievances, are as followeth.

I.

First, the generall and apparent decay of Trades, occasioned by the new & illegall raysing of the booke of Rates and Impositions, as xij.d. a piece, custome for Hides bought for 3. 4. or 5. s. and many other heavie Impositions upon native & other commodities exported and imported, by reason thereof & of the extreame usage, and sensures, Marchants are beggred, and both disinable, and discouraged to trade; and some of the honorable persons who gaine therby are often Iudges and parties, and that in Conclusion his Majesties profit thereby is not considerably advanced.

II.

Secondly, the arbitrary decision of all civill causes and controversies, by paper petitions before the Lord *Lieutenant* and

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Lord Deputy, & infinite other judicators upon references from them derived in the nature of all actions, determinable at the common law, not limited unto certaine times, seasons, causes, and things, whatsoever, and the consequence of such proceedings, by receiving immoderate & unlawful fees by *Secretaries*, *Clerkes*, *Pursivants*, *Serjeants* at Armes, & otherwise, by which kind of proceedings, his Majesty loseth a considerable part of his Revenue, upon originall writs, & otherwise, and the subject loseth the benefit of his writ of errour, Bill of reversall, vouchers, and other legall and just advantages, and the ordinarie course & Courts of justice declined

III.

Thirdly, the proceedings in civill causes at the Councell boord, contrary to the law and great *Charter*, and not limitted to any certaine time, or season.

IV.

Fourthly, that the Subject is in all the materiall parts therof denied the benefit of the princely graces, and more especially of the statute of Limitations, of the 21. *Ian.* granted by his Majestie in the 4. yeare of this Reigne, upon great advice of the Counsell of *England and Ireland*, and for great consideration; & then published

liſhed in all the Courts of *Dublin*, and in all the Courts of this Kingdome in open Aſſizes, whereby all perſons doe take notice, that contrary to his Majeſties pious intention, his Subjects of this Land have not enjoyed the benefit of his Majeſties Princely promiſe therby made.

V.

Fiftly, the extrajudiciall avoyding of Letters Patents of eſtates of a very great part of his Majeſties ſubjects under the great Seale (the publique faith of the Kingdome) by private opinions delivered at Counſell Board, without legall Evictions of their eſtates, contrary to the Law and without precedent or example of any former age.

VI.

Sixtly, the Proclamation for the ſole exemption and uttering of *Tobacco*, which is bought at very low Rates, and uttered at high and exceſſive rates, by meanes whereof thouſands of Families within this Kingdome and of his Majeſties ſubjects in ſeverall Iſlands, & other parts of the *Weſt Indies* (as your Petitioners are informed) are deſtroyed, and the moſt part of the Coyne of this Kingdome is ingroſſed into particular hands: Inſomuch that your Petitioners doe conceive

that the profit arising & ingrossed therby, doth surmount his Majesties revenues Certaine and casuall within this Kingdome, and yet his Mastjestie receiveth but very little profit by the same.

VII.

Seventhly, the unusuall and unlawfull increasing of *Monopolies* to the advantage of few, to the disprofit of his Majestie and the impoverishment of his people.

VIII.

Eightly, the extreame and cruell usage of certaine late Commissioners and other, towards the *British* Farmers and Inhabitants of the City and County of *London-derry*, by meanes whereof the worthy plantation of that Country is almost destroyed, and the Inhabitants are reduced to great poverty, and many of them forced to forsake the Country, the same being the first and most usefull Plantation in the large Province of *Vlster*, to the great weakening of the Kingdome, in this time of danger, the said Plantation being the principall strength of those parts.

IX.

Ninthly, the late erection of the Court of high Commission for causes Ecclesiasticall in these necessitous times, the pro-

proceedings of the ſaid Court in many cauſes without legall warrant, and yet ſo ſupported as prohibitions have not been obtained, though legally ſought for, and the exceſſive fees exacted by the miniſters thereof, and the incroaching of the ſame upon the juriſdiction of other Eccleſiaſticall Courts of this Kingdome.

X.

Tenthly, the exorbitant and barbarous Fees and pretended Cuſtomes exacted by the Clergie againſt the Law, ſome of which have been formerly repreſented to your Lordſhip.

XI.

Eleventhly, the Petitioners doe moſt heartily bemone that his Majeſties ſervices and profits are much more impaired then advanced by the grievances aforeſaid. And the Subſidies granted in the laſt Parliament having much encreaſed his Majeſties Revenue by the buying in of Grants and otherwiſe, and that all his Majeſties debts then due in this Kingdome were ſatisfied out of the ſaid Subſidies, and yet his Majeſtie is of late (as your Petitioners have been informed) in the houſe of Commons become indebted in this Kingdome in great ſummes, and they doe therefore humbly beſeech that

an exact account may be ſent to his Majeſtie, how and in what manner his treaſure iſſued.

XII.

Twelfthly, the Petitioners doe humbly conceive great and juſt feares at a Proclamation publiſhed in this Kingdome in *Anno Dom.* 1635. prohibiting men of quality or eſtate for to depart this Kingdome into *England*, without the Lord Deputies Licenſe, whereby the Subjects of this Kingdome are hindered and interrupted from free acceſſe and addreſſe to his ſacred Majeſtie and Privie Counſell of *England*, to declare their juſt grievances, or to obtaine remedy for them, in ſuch ſort as their Anceſtors have done in all ages, ſince the Reigne of King *Henry* the ſecond, and great fees exacted for, every of the ſaid Licenſes.

XIII.

Thirteenthly, that of late his Majeſties late Atturney generall hath exhibited informations againſt many ancient Burroughs of this Kingdome into his Majeſties Court of Exchequer, to ſhew by what warrant the ſaid Burroughes, who heretofore ſent Burgeſſes to the Parliament, ſhould ſend the ſaid Burgeſſes to the Parliament. And thereupon for want

of

of an anſwer, the ſaid Priviledge of ſending Burgeſſes was ſeized by the ſaid Court, which proceedings were altogether *Coram non Judice*, and contrary to the Lawes and Priviledges of the houſe of Parliament (and if way ſhould be given thereunto) might tend to the ſubverſion of Parliaments, and by conſequence to the ruine & deſtruction of the Commonwealth, and that the houſe of Commons hath hitherto in this preſent Parliament bin deprived of the advice and Counſell of many profitable and good members by meanes thereof.

XIV.

Fourteenthly, that by the powerfulneſſe of ſome Miniſters of State in this Kingdome, the Parliament in its members and actions hath not his naturall freedome.

XV.

Fifteenthly, that the fees taken in all the Courts of Juſtice in this Kingdome, both Eccleſiaſticall and Civill, and by other inferior Officers and Miniſters, are ſo immoderately high, that it is an unſpeakeable burthen to all his Majeſties Subjects of this, who are not able to ſubſiſt, except the ſame be ſpeedily remedied & reduced to ſuch a moderation as may ſtand with the condition of this Realme.

And lastly, That the Gentry, Merchants, and other his Majesties subjects of this Kingdome, are of late by the grievances and pressures aforesaid and other the like, very neere to Ruine and destruction. And Farmers of Customes, Customers, Waiters, Searchers, Clearkes of unwarrantable proceedings, Pursevants, and Gaolers, and sundry others very much inriched, whereby and by the slow redresse of the Petitioners grievances, his Majesties most faithfull and dutifull people of this Kingdome, doe conceive great feares that their readinesse approved upon all occasions, hath not beene of late rightly represented to his Majesty.

For Remedy whereof, the said Petitioners doe humbly and of Right beseech your Lordship, that the grievances and pressures may be speedily redressed. And if your Lordship shall not thinke fit to afford us present relieſe therein, that your Lordship may admit a select Committee of this House of persons unintereſſed in the benefit arising, the aforesaid grievances to be licensed by your Lordship, to repaire to his

his ſacred Majeſty in *England* for to purſue the ſame, and to obtaine fitting Remedies for their aforeſaid and other juſt grievances and oppreſſions, and upon all juſt and honorable occaſions, they will without reſpect of particular intereſt or profit to be raiſed thereby, moſt humbly and readily in Parliament, extend their utmoſt endeavours to ſerve his Majeſty, and comply with his Royall and Princely occaſions,

And ſhall pray, &c.

Copia vera.

*EC65.Ir251p.641h

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